

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PONTA 00280 071154Z

44

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 AF-04 INR-05

CIAE-00 SAM-01 L-02 SP-02 PM-03 DODE-00 OMB-01 PRS-01

/047 W

----- 114378

R 071120Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1223

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFORAZ LAJES FLD AZORES

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 280

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN SITUATION: GROWTH OF SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE

1. ATMOSPHERE IN PONTA DELGADA IS CHARGED. SMALLEST INCIDENT, INCLUDING ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL USG VISITORS, PRODUCES EXTENSIVE RUMORS. WE ARE BEGINNING TO HEAR COMMENTS RE POST INDEPENDENCE GOVERNMENT; SOME WANT INDEPENDENCE WITHOUT CONSERVATIVE FLA LEADERS. SPORADIC ANTI-COMMUNIST VIOLENCE HAS OCCURRED. TWICE PCP MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ATTACKED, AND EARLY MORNING OF AUGUST 5 PONTA DELGADA HEADQUARTERS OF MDP/CDE BURNED. MILITARY COMMAND HAS ISSUED COMMUNIQUE LAMENTING VIOLENCE AND PROMISING TO PUNISH THOSE RESPONSIBLE REGARDLESS OF POLITICS.

2. LOCAL PS LEADER TOLD ME THAT HE PERSONALLY OPPOSES INDEPENDENCE BECAUSE AZORES ARE NOT VIABLE AND WOULD BE DEPENDENT ON USG, BUT RECOGNIZES THAT MAJORITY AZOREANS FAVOR IT DUE TO STRONG ANTI-COMMUNIST SENTIMENT. RAPID GROWTH OF POPULARITY OF INDEPENDENCE IS RESULT OF CURRENT POLITICAL CRISIS ON CONTINENT. IN ADDITION, HE SAID NO ONE BELIEVES GOP PROMISES OF ASSISTANCE, BUT THINK DEVELOPMENT POSSIBLE IF CONTROL OF ECONOMIC DECISIONS IN LOCAL HANDS. SOURCE BELIEVES INDEPENDENCE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PONTA 00280 071154Z

PROBABLE IF COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP INSTALLED IN PORTUGAL AND

POSSIBLE IF RIGHTIST DICTATORSHIP ESTABLISHED. HE EXPLAINED THAT PS FAVORS EXTENSIVE AUTONOMY FOR AZORES, BUT RECOGNIZES THAT TRUE AUTONOMY ONLY POSSIBLE IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PORTUGAL. SOURCE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT PROPOSED JUNTA GOVERNATIVA WOULD HAVE FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL RESOURCES NECESSARY TO DO ANYTHING CONCRETE FOR AZORES.

3. COMMENT: APPEARS TO US THAT ONLY A SHIFT OF POWER TOWARDS MODERATES IN LISBON WILL STOP GROWING MOMENTUM BEHIND INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT.

PFEIFLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDEPENDENCE, ANTICOMMUNIST, AZORES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975PONTA00280  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750272-1091  
**From:** PONTA DELGADA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750873/aaaacmrv.tel  
**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <24 DEC 2003 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AZOREAN SITUATION: GROWTH OF SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENCE  
**TAGS:** PINT, PO, FLA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006